



WITCH-HAZEL *Hamamelis virginiana* L.

Witch-hazel occurs as a small tree or shrub in most parts of Maine except in the far north. It is found on borders of the forest in low rich soil or on rocky banks of streams.

The **bark** is gray-brown and somewhat scaly on older stems. The **leaves** are alternate, broadly obovate, non-symmetrical at the base, and have a wavy margin.

It has bright yellow **flowers** with thread-like petals in autumn or early winter. The **fruit** is a woody capsule, usually two in a cluster. The seeds are discharged fiercely when ripe.

The **twigs** are gray, zigzag, with gray or rust-colored hair and scalpel-shaped buds.

An extract from the bark is mixed with alcohol and used as an astringent.



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Witch-hazel Circumference: 18" Height: 32' Crown Spread: 17' Location: Rockport

